

REMARKS

In the non-final Office Action mailed on June 20, 2005 (Paper no. 06072005), the Examiner indicated that claims 1-12, 31, and 36 are allowable; objected to the drawings and specification; rejected claims 24-28 and 34-36 under 35 U.S.C. § 101, and rejected claims 13-30, 32-35, and 37-50 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Cramer et al., "A Secure and Optimally Efficient Multi-Authority Election Scheme." In this response, applicant amends the specification, amends claims 29 and 34, and cancels claims 13-28, 31, 33, and 36-50. For the reasons discussed in detail below, applicant submits that the application is in condition for allowance.

After reviewing the objections to the drawings and specification, applicant has determined that the following typographical errors were made in preparing the specification: (1) in paragraph [0037], the vote collection center computer system was incorrectly identified with Reference No. 150, rather than the correct reference number, 130; and (2) in paragraph [0040], the validity proof transmitted to a vote collection center computer system as part of step 305 was not identified with reference number 311. Applicant herein amends the specification to correct these errors. Applicant submits that such amendment adds no new matter, as it serves only to conform the specification to the drawings.

While applicant does not concur in the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 101 and § 103(a), in order to expedite issuance of a patent, he hereby amends the claims to incorporate the contents of claims 31 and 36, indicated by the Examiner to be allowable, into their base claims 29 and 34, and cancel rejected claims 13-28, 33, and 37-50.

In view of the foregoing, applicant believes the pending application is in condition for allowance, and therefore respectfully solicits a prompt Notice of Allowance.

Application No.: 10/038,752

Docket No.: 324628006US1

Applicant believes no fee is due with this response. However, if a fee is due, please charge our Deposit Account No. 50-0665, under Order No. 324628006US1 from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

Dated: December 20, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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